

Appendix 1, changes to the specification with brackets and underlining to show the changes that have been made:

Page 1, of the specification:

ELECTRIC DRIVE UNIT

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a 35 USC 371 application of PCT/DE 00/04020 filed on November 14, 2000.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[Prior Art] Field of the Invention

[The invention is based on an electric drive unit as generically defined by the preamble to claim 1.] The invention is directed to an electric drive unit and particularly to such drive units useful in motor vehicles.

Description of the Prior Art

Page 2, fifth paragraph, of the specification:

From German patent disclosure DE 197 24 920 A1, it is already known to accommodate a motor and a substantial portion of the gear in one housing[, in which the motor is also located]. A separate gear housing is always still necessary, however. Furthermore, this reference provides no information about how the motor is accommodated in the housing or what material comprises the housing.

Page 3, of the specification:

[Advantages of the Invention] SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The electric drive unit of the invention [having the characteristics of the body of claim 1] has the advantage over the prior art that in a simple way, the number of parts to be assembled and the production cost are reduced.

[By the provisions recited under dependent claims, advantages refinements of and improvements to the electric drive unit recited in claim 1 are possible.]

Pages 4-5, of the specification:

[Drawing] BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[Exemplary embodiments of the invention are shown in simplified form in the drawing and described in further detail below.] Other features and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the detailed description contained below, taken in conjunction with the drawings, in which:

[Description of the Exemplary Embodiments] DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Fig. 1 shows a first exemplary embodiment of an electric drive unit 1 according to the invention. The electric drive unit 1 comprises a gear housing 5 and a pole housing 10. The gear housing 5 merges without any additional connection with the pole

housing 10, and the gear housing 5 can also be in multiple parts. For instance, a cap, not shown, and a bottom 6 can form the gear housing 5. The installation of a gear and optionally the installation of a bearing in the gear housing 5 is thus made possible because the cap is mounted later. The bottom 6 of the gear housing 5 in this example is in one piece with the pole housing 10. The gear housing 5 and the pole housing 10 can be of plastic or metal. If a housing 5, 10 is of plastic, then it is produced for instance by plastic injection or plastic casting. A [plastic] pole housing 10 of plastic can also be injection-molded onto a metal gear housing 5, so that any combination of materials is possible for the housings 5, 10. A worm drive 7, for instance, with a gear 8 not otherwise shown is located in the gear housing 5.

An electric motor 15 is located in the pole housing 10. The electric motor 15 comprises a stator 18 and a rotor 20. The rotor 20 is formed of an armature 22, a commutator 25, and a shaft 28. The shaft 28 has [an axial] a longitudinal axis 30.

The stator 18 comprises [two magnets 32.1, 32.2, for instance,] a magnet 32 and a short-circuit element 36. The magnet 32 can be in one piece or can comprise multiple parts 32.1, 32.2.

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The shaft 28 is supported at at least two points. On an end 40 of the shaft 28 toward the motor, an end shield 43 with a motor bearing 45 is present which initially is still axially adjustable. The end shield 43 and the motor bearing 45 can be embodied in one piece and can for instance be of plastic. The end shield 43 can also comprise

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a metal motor bearing 45 [spring] spray-coated with plastic. One indentation 44, for example, is provided in the pole housing 10, and the end [shield 43] 40 of shaft 28 can be introduced into this indentation.

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In the production of the electric drive unit 1, magnets 32 (32.1, 32.2) and short-circuit elements 36, for instance, are placed in an injection molding tool and then, by injection of plasticized plastic into the injection-molding tool, the bottom 6 of the gear housing 5 and the pole housing 10 are formed.

The end shield 43 can for instance be screwed into a thread 57 present in the pole housing 10, or glued by a [worm] bead of adhesive, or joined to the pole housing 10 by ultrasonic welding or lasers. All this produces a watertight connection.

Given a suitable choice of material for the [bearing plate] end shield 43, the motor bearing 45 can not only perform radial support but can also absorb the axial run-up forces of the rotor 20. Furthermore, the end shield 43 with the motor bearing 45 can be pressed axially with slight prestressing force against a steel run-up cup 55 of the shaft 28 and be fixed to the pole housing 10 in an axially play-free state of the shaft 28.

Page 10, after the last paragraph insert the following paragraph:

The foregoing relates to preferred exemplary of embodiments of the invention, it being understood that other variants and embodiments thereof are possible within the spirit and scope of the invention, the latter being defined by the appended claims.